

CLAIMS:

1. A communication system comprising networks and gateway means interconnecting the networks, one of the networks comprises a communication device having means for sending a communication to at least one of the gateway means, and the gateway means having means for sending a message to the communication device, characterised in
5 that the communication contains a communication request, that the message contains an answer in response to the communication request, and that the communication device further has means for selecting gateway means, based on the answer received from the at least one gateway means.
- 10 2. The communication system according to claim 1, characterised in that the means for sending are arranged for broadcasting the communication request to each of the gateway means.
3. The communication system according to one of the claims 1 or 2,
15 characterised in that the communication device has means for sending a communication acknowledge message to the selected gateway means, and possibly to non selected gateway means.
4. The communication device according to the one of the claims 1-3,
20 characterised in that the communication device has means for receiving an answer to the communication request from the gateway means.
5. The communication system according to one of the claims 1-4, characterised in that the gateway means have means for sending on the communication request to one or
25 more other gateway means.
6. The communication system according to claim 5, characterised in that the gateway means have means for receiving an answer to the communication request from the other gateways.

7. The communication system according to one of the claims 1-6, characterised in that the communication request comprises data which is relevant to minimum required communication features.

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8. The communication system according to claim 7, characterised in that the communication features at least comprise one of the following items: available bandwidth, maximum transmission rate, required bit error rate, non-blocking rate, experienced jitter or delay over the selected gateway(s), costs involved in the communication, available service and support for the service, available processing power or storage capacity, opening/closing time of the selected gateway(s).

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9. Gateway means for application in the communication system according to one of the claims 1-8, the communication system comprising networks and gateway means interconnecting the networks, one of the networks comprises a communication device having means for sending a communication to at least one of the gateway means, and the gateway means having means for sending a message to the communication device, characterised in that the communication contains a communication request, that the message contains an answer to the communication request, and that the communication device further has means for selecting gateway means, based on the answer received from the at least one gateway means.

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10. A method effecting communication through at least one gateway, characterised in that a communication request is sent to one or more gateways, which send an answer back in response to the communication request, where after based on the received answer(s) the at least one gateway is selected.

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11. A computer program suited for implementing the method according to claim 10, wherein communication is effected through at least one gateway, wherein a communication request is sent to one or more gateways which send an answer back in response to the communication request, and based on the received answer the at least one gateway is selected.

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12. A protocol suited for applying the method according to claim 10, wherein communication is effected through at least one gateway, wherein a communication request is sent to one or more gateways which send an answer back in response to the communication request, and based on the received answer the at least one gateway is selected.